XXII. *The Caſe of* Grace Lowdell, *aged about Sixty Years, who had an extraordinary* Tumour *on her Thigh; communicated by* John Chandler, F. R. S. *from Mr.* Mizael Malfalguerat, *Surgeon, at* St. Edmund's-bury.

GRACE *Lowdell,* a poor old Woman of the Pariſh of *St. James,* in *Bury St. Edmund's, Suffolk,* being naturally of a groſs, fat, and relaxed Conſtitution, and conſtantly given to the drinking of ſtrong Liquors; and conſequently labouring for many Years under an ill Habit of Body, ſuch as the Rheumatiſm, which had cauſed Contraction of ſome of her Fingers, with ſome nervous Affections in her Head, often cauſing ſome little Fits of Vertigo, *&c.* And though ſhe had formerly ſome Child-bearing Weakneſs, *viz.* a *Procidentia Uteri,* yet there could not be found any other ſcrophulous Symptoms, than that ſhe obſerved, when about Thirty Years of Age, ſoon after her Delivery of a Son, a little hard Swelling on the Muſcle *Biceps,* and poſterior, inferior and external lateral Part of the Thigh, a little above the Ham, without her knowing any manifeſt Occaſion for it; which at firſt went on ſlowly, but after proceeding more quickly, and the older it grew, it ſtill came on the faſter, until it increaſed to the Bulk of near a Foot in Circumference, being ſomewhat of a globulous and a little longiſh Figure from its Baſis, which was lax, like a Peduncle, or Stalk, and about half the Circumference of the Tumour, like a Neck to the Head of a Child hanging down.

From the firſt Appearance of this Tumour to the Exciſion of it, there were more than Thirty Years: She had exceſſive Pains and Uneaſineſs in it, and at laſt its Bulk and Weight had in ſome meaſure intercepted the Nouriſhment to it, ſo that an Ulcer had affected the inferior Part of it, very putrid and ſinuous, of about Six Months ſtanding.

This Excreſcence was of the natural Colour of the Skin, and was for the moſt part of a pinquedinous Subſtance; the Centre and Baſis being an *Atheroma*, but more ſcirrhous than common.

This Excreſcence, having grown ſo big, was not contained in a manifeſt *Cyſtis*, but had ſome large Circumvolutions of Fat adherent to its common Teguments, as was obſerved after the Exciſion of it, when it was ſoon conveyed away; ſo that, through Inadvertency, we did not weigh it.

My Deſign in this Caſe was to have made a total Extirpation of this Excreſcence; but by reaſon of its lying with large Veſſels, and amongſt the Tendons of the Muſcles, I was content (as Dr. *Turner* adviſes in ſuch Caſes) "To level it, the beſt we can, by "Eſcharotics, ſtill repeated as the Sloughs throw off; "till we have conſumed as much of the Gland or "Subſtance, and gone as deep, as may be ſafely ad-"ventured; when probably ſome powerful Deſic-"cative may induce a *Cicatrix*, which may ſo tie "the Remains, as to create no farther Trouble."

This Tumour had been ſhewn to moſt of the Phyſicians and Surgeons hereabouts, ſome of no leſs Skill than Note, who ſeemed to approve of the Operation: Therefore, *July* the 7th 1735. I made a Ligature about the Baſis of it, with a Slip-knot, by which

which I gradually conſtringed it once or twice a Day, as the Patient could ſuffer it, without cauſing any ill Symptoms, till the 17th of the ſame Month, when ſhe was taken with ſtrong Convulſions, a ſlow Fever, Syncope, her Teeth ſet in her Head, and a Loſs of her Senſes, which laſted that whole Day, and the Night following; from which time I did no more conſtringe the Tumour, preſcribed Cordials, volatile Drops, a purging *Enema*, and a paregoric Draught at Night, which had ſo good an Effect, that by the next Day ſhe was much recovered, and came to her Senſes. The Ligature began to make a Separation in the Neck of this preternatural ſprouting Excreſcence; and on the 20th, in the Preſence only of one in the Profeſſion, having all my Apparatus before me, I extirpated the whole outward Tumour without any great *Hæmorrhage*. I was induced to uſe the Ligature, in order to prevent the too great Effuſion of Blood, which might otherwiſe happen; thinking it not very ſafe to make a Ligature of the Body of ſo large an Artery as is in the Ham, for fear of intercepting afterwards the Nouriſhment to the Leg, as happens often after the Operation of the *Aneuriſma*.

The Remains, though ſordid at firſt, by a peculiar Method of Dreſſing, and proper Applications of ſtrong Digeſtives, Deterſives, *&c.* cleanſed, and the Ulcer ſoon digeſted, the Subſtance came even to the Skin, and, *September* the 21ſt, it was all perfectly cured, without any Hardneſs, or any Inconvenience to her walking, and is like to remain always ſo.